

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/IE 03/00041

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H01S5/0625

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H01S

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| X | WO 99 40654 A (ALTITUN AB ;ANDERSSON LARS (SE); BROBERG BJOERN (SE)) 12 August 1999 (1999-08-12) page 1, line 10 - line 20; figure 4 page 5, line 29 -page 6, line 15; figure 6 page 8, line 10 - line 23 page 9, line 24 - line 27 abstract | 1-20 |
| A | WO 00 54380 A (ALTITUN AB ;ANDERSSON LARS (SE)) 14 September 2000 (2000-09-14) cited in the application abstract | 1-20 |
| A | US 5 812 572 A (OLSEN DAVID D ET AL) 22 September 1998 (1998-09-22) column 12, line 62 -column 13, line 20; figure 4 | 1-20 |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

5 April 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

16/04/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel (+31-70) 340-2040. Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Flierl, P

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IE 03/00041

| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|---|---|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| WO 9940654 | A | 12-08-1999 | SE 519081 C2 | 07-01-2003 |
| | | | AU 2304699 A | 23-08-1999 |
| | | | CA 2316820 A1 | 12-08-1999 |
| | | | EP 1050088 A1 | 08-11-2000 |
| | | | JP 2002503036 T | 29-01-2002 |
| | | | SE 9800143 A | 22-07-1999 |
| | | | WO 9940654 A1 | 12-08-1999 |
| | | | US 6504856 B1 | 07-01-2003 |
| WO 0054380 | A | 14-09-2000 | SE 518827 C2 | 26-11-2002 |
| | | | AU 3202700 A | 28-09-2000 |
| | | | AU 3202900 A | 28-09-2000 |
| | | | CA 2360960 A1 | 14-09-2000 |
| | | | CA 2360962 A1 | 14-09-2000 |
| | | | CN 1340230 T | 13-03-2002 |
| | | | CN 1340232 T | 13-03-2002 |
| | | | EP 1166407 A1 | 02-01-2002 |
| | | | EP 1166409 A1 | 02-01-2002 |
| | | | JP 2002542608 T | 10-12-2002 |
| | | | JP 2003523616 T | 05-08-2003 |
| | | | WO 0054380 A1 | 14-09-2000 |
| | | | WO 0054381 A1 | 14-09-2000 |
| | | | SE 9900536 A | 18-08-2000 |
| | | | SE 514188 C2 | 22-01-2001 |
| | | | SE 9903039 A | 18-08-2000 |
| | | | US 6587485 B1 | 01-07-2003 |
| US 5812572 | A | 22-09-1998 | AU 3508797 A | 21-01-1998 |
| | | | WO 9800893 A1 | 08-01-1998 |